

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks. Claims 18-33 are pending in the application. Claims 1-17 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

At page 2 of the Action, dated August 3, 2005, a restriction requirement is set forth. The requirement appears to contain a typographical error (i.e., the term "and" instead of a hyphen) because the Action does not place apparatus claims 19-32 into either Group A or B, because apparatus claims 19-25 depend from independent apparatus claim 18, and because apparatus claim 33 depends from independent apparatus claim 26. Therefore, Applicants are treating group B as including all of claims 18-33. **Applicant hereby elects Group B, claims 18-33.** As noted above, method claims 1-17 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. A divisional application directed to the subject matter of claims 1-17 is being filed.

Applicant is investigating inventorship to determine whether such should be amended in light of the cancelled claims. A timely Petition to change inventorship will be made if it is determined necessary.

Other than as explicitly set forth above, this reply does not include acquiescence to statements, assertions, assumptions, conclusions, or combination thereof in the Office Action. In view of the above, all the claims are considered patentable and allowance of all the claims is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned (at direct line 512-394-0118) for prompt action in the event any issues remain that prevent the allowance of any pending claims.

No fee is due for filing this Reply because it is being filed with the shortened statutory period for response as set in the Office Action dated August 3, 2005.

The Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-3204 of John Bruckner PC.

Respectfully submitted,

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